

INFORMATION REPORT

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REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Hungary

SUBJECT Sandor Kovacs Replaces Peter Gabor
as Real Chief of Political PolicePLACE
ACQUIRED

25X1

DATE OF INFO.

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- 25X1 1. Peter Gabor, (also known as Beno Auspitz) chief of the Hungarian Political
25X1 Police, which he has headed since he founded it himself, has fallen into
25X1 disgrace. Hungarian Communist Party circles, as well as Moscow, were completely
satisfied with his achievements as long as he had to deal with the activity
of non-Communist elements and neutralize their resistance to Communist aims.
2. During the course of recent years, however, Communist Party leadership has
realized that the potentially most dangerous enemy of the new regime was
within the Party itself, in organized labor. From that time on the real task
of the Political Police was to discover the focal points of hostility against
the new regime among the workers and purge organized labor of the most re-
calcitrant elements. Gabor failed on this point. Despite his ruthlessness, he
was not successful in blocking the growth of dissatisfaction and hostility
among industrial workers.
3. Some two months ago an unpublicized strike of the miners demanding increased
wages was rejected by the Government. However, some 60 miners refused to
go along with the Government solution of the strike and preferred to flee the
country. Their successful desertion dealt a mortal blow to the shaky position
of Gabor. The Communist Party, which used to react with indifference to the
evasion of reactionary elements, was revolted at the news of 60 party members
deserting and succeeding in reaching the Capitalist West. Gabor was blamed
with incapability and helplessness, and his removal was suggested.
4. While outwardly Gabor is still in office, the real head of the Political
Police has become Sandor Kovacs, who spent some 20 years in the Soviet Union
and returned to Hungary with the Red Army. Since his return to Hungary, he has
been chief of the Second Division of the Political Police.

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